



# **Naval Station Ingleside**

**May 17, 2005**

## **For Immediate Release**

### **USS Cormorant welcomes new CO**

Command of USS Cormorant (MHC 57) changed hands May 17, when Lt. Cmdr. William R. Grotewold turned over the helm to Lt. Cmdr. Ronald W. Toland Jr. during an informal ceremony.

Lt. Cmdr. Toland's most recent assignment was as the future operations officer for Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy with a bachelor's degree in engineering, Lt. Cmdr. Toland was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy in 1992.

His sea tours include damage control assistant and ordnance officer for USS Mahlon S. Tisdale (FFG 27), engineering officer for USS Mahan (DDG 72), and engineering officer for USS Thorn (DD 988). During these tours, Lt. Cmdr. Toland completed two Mediterranean deployments, a Western Pacific deployment, and one counter narcotics operation in the Caribbean Sea. He also participated in numerous Battle Group Operations in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans including the Pacific North West.

Lt. Cmdr. Toland earned a master of science degree in engineering acoustics while in the Undersea Warfare Program at the Naval Post Graduate School, from 1996 to 1998. His awards include a Meritorious Service Medal, five Navy Commendation Medals, one Navy Achievement Medal and various other service medals and unit awards.

Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at Vanderbilt University in May 1990.

Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold's first assignment was as third division officer, as well as boilers division officer, ship maintenance and material officer, main propulsion assistant, and navigator aboard USS Mount Vernon (LSD 39) homeported in San Diego, Calif. His



next assignment was as operations officer/executive officer on USS Tempest (PC 2) homeported in Little Creek, Va.

Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold's first shore assignment was as a junior officer detailee at the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

After completing surface department head school, Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold reported to USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49), homeported in San Diego, as operations officer. He then served as the operations officer for Amphibious Squadron Five, in San Diego.

Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold's next assignment was as a programmer and analyst for Expeditionary Warfare, Mine Warfare, and Combat Logistics Forces on the Chief of Naval Operations staff.

His decorations include five Navy Commendation Medals, three Navy Achievement Medals, and various campaign and service decorations.

Lt. Cmdr. Grotewold will move to Newport, R.I., where he will be an instructor at Surface Warfare Officer School Command.

USS Cormorant is the seventh ship in the Osprey Class of coastal mine hunters designed as mine hunter-killers capable of finding, classifying and destroying moored and bottom mines. Cormorant is homeported at Naval Station Ingleside, Texas.